REMARKS:

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-20 are allowable over the teachings of what he has determined to be the closest prior art references. These references include Ender (United States Patent 3,287,291), and Nakamura et al (United States Patent 5,973,067). However, the Examiner has objected to claims 12-20 on the basis of certain informalities.

The Examiner has suggested that claims 12-20 be corrected by changing "at least one of the members selected from the group consisting of R and R' is a hydroxyl group" to –at least one of R and R' is a hydroxyl group—. Such changes have been made to claims 12-20.

It is believed that the amendments made herein overcome the Examiner's objections. Since all of the claims pending in the subject patent application are allowable over the teachings of the closest prior art references, it is believed that the subject patent application is now in a condition for allowance and such an allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Alvin T Rockhill, Reg. No. 30,417 The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, D/823 1144 East Market Street Akron, Ohio 44316-0001 Telephone: (330) 666-4659